

It is chiefly, however, to the persons named on the title pages that they come freighted with instructions and advice, not only safe, but valuable. Medical practitioners are the chief official guardians of the physical well-being of the people, and know well that there is no agency so prolific of suffering and irremediable injury to the body and its health as vice. Unfortunately many of the semi-medical books written for the laity are non-scientific and entirely unworthy of confidence. This charge will not hold as against the books of this series. For young people who are to be kept free from vice the part of safety lies not in the way of ignorance, but in scientific instruction as to the physiology, the capabilities, the right use of and proper care of the body.

There have crept in some statements which detract; for example, "that a child conceived when either parent was in a state of intoxication is likely to be an idiot." This, though often stated, does not bear the hall-mark of scientific accuracy.

Every book of the series may confidently be recommended to parents and teachers, and to the separate persons for whom written, as containing the very best statement of the important information which should be supplied to every young man and woman, every boy and girl, entering upon the duties and responsibilities of life.

B. E. M.

Progressive Medicine, Vol. II., June, 1902. A Quarterly Digest of Advances, Discoveries, and Improvements in the Medical and Surgical Sciences. Edited by ROBERT AMORY HARE, M.D., Professor of Therapeutics and Materia Medica in the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia. Octavo, handsomely bound in cloth, 440 pages, 28 illustrations. Per volume, \$2.50, by express, prepaid to any address. Per annum, in four cloth-bound volumes, \$10.00. Philadelphia and New York: Lea Brothers & Co., Publishers.

The contributors to Vol. II. are: John G. Clarke, M.D., William B. Coley, M.D., Edward Jackson, M.D., and Alfred Stengel, M.D. Even those who are well read in modern gynecological literature may find that some novel device, often an improvement, has escaped their observation, so that a perusal of Dr. Clarke's article will give fulness of contour to their reading. The latest advances in technique are referred to, and new views on gynecological pathology noted.

Physicians interested in the surgery of the abdomen will find the subject well put by Dr. Coley. Though brief, his article on hernia is valuable. He gives his own statistics of the operation for the radical cure of hernia, and also those of the great French surgeon, Lucas-Championiere. His criticism of the living suture used by Dr. McArthur in his operation for the radical cure of hernia is favorable. In Dr. Stengel's reference to pernicious anemia Dr. McPhedran's name is frequently quoted as "Mc-